MAYOR
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VILLAGE CLERK

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March 17, 2011



VILLAGE HALL

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Priscilla & Rob Steinmetz The Bridge Teen Center 15555 S 71<sup>st</sup> Court

Dear Priscilla & Rob:

Orland Park, IL 60462

Thank you for your letter of March 7, 2011. Congratulations on the success of The Bridge Teen Center and on your plans to expand your space!

As you can imagine, the Village of Orland Park is home to numerous charitable, non-profit, and religious institutions. All of these entities make passionate claims for waivers or reductions of permit fees. We wish we could help all of them.

I am sure, however, that you can appreciate the Village's challenge with respect to being accountable to the taxpayers and treating all applicants for building permits and licenses with an even hand. In fact, it was because of the number of these types of requests that the Village Board adopted a fee waiver policy on March 12, 2009. Under this policy, certain fees can only be waived for other taxing bodies (e.g., school districts, fire districts, etc.). This policy does not grant fee waivers for non-profits, charities, or religious institutions.

I hope you can understand the Village's position. If you wish to petition for a waiver of this policy by the Village Board, via the Development Services Committee, please do so in writing, and we will place on the agenda for the April 18 committee meeting.

You should feel free to contact me with any further questions or if you need any assistance. I wish you continued success with your terrific program.

Paul G. Grimes

Village Manager